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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/846,456	05/02/2001	Marie-Francoise Rosier-Montus	3806.0505	1457

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EXAMINER

LEFFERS JR, GERALD G

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1636

DATE MAILED: 11/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/846,456

Applicant(s)

ROSIER-MONTUS, ET AL.

Examiner

Gerald G Leffers Jr., PhD

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 August 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of a paper copy of the sequence listing, CRF and statement filed 8/14/03. The application is now in sequence compliance.

Receipt is acknowledged of an amendment, filed 4/21/03 as Paper No. 11, in which claims were amended (claims 1-2, 3, 5, 15-17, 23-26, 31-33, 35 and 37) and in which claims were cancelled (claims 4 and 39-56). Claims 1-3, 5-38 are pending in the instant application. Any rejection of record not addressed herein is withdrawn. This action is FINAL.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Auffray et al (C. R. Acad. Sci. III, Sci. Vie 318, No. 2, pages 263-272; see the search reports attached to the instant action). **This rejection is maintained for reasons of record.**

As indicated by the attached search reports, Auffray et al teach the sequence the sequence of a cDNA clone obtained from the infant brain. The sequence taught by Auffray et al comprises greater than 20 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4 and 5.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed in Paper No. 11 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The response essentially argues that the amendment to claim 2 to recite "at least 30

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consecutive nucleotides” of SEQ ID NO: 2 has overcome the rejection. Amended claim 2 recites the limitation “...comprising a polynucleotide of the sequence SEQ ID NO: 2...”. As indicated below in the 112 2nd rejection, this phrase can be read broadly to specify any sequence found within SEQ ID NO: 2 and is not explicitly limited to a polynucleotide comprising all of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1, 3, 5-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. **This rejection is necessitated by applicants’ amendment of the claims in Paper No. 11.**

Claim 1 recites the limitation of an isolated nucleic acid comprising a polynucleotide “...having at least 300 consecutive nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1...”. Claim 3 recites the limitation of an isolated nucleic acid comprising a polynucleotide “...having at least 30 consecutive nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3...”. Claim 5 recites the limitation of an isolated nucleic acid comprising a polynucleotide “...having at least 30 consecutive nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5...”. There is no literal

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support in the specification as originally filed for the specific ranges recited in the amended claims. Therefore, the cited phrases are impermissible NEW MATTER.

Response to Arguments

The response filed in Paper No. 11 argues that the specification provides inherent support for the recited limitations. For example, the response argues that the limitation of “at least 20 consecutive nucleotides” necessarily provides support for the limitation of “at least 30 consecutive nucleotides” because the former encompasses the latter range. This assertion is inaccurate. The latter range excludes a broader range for which there is no literal support in the specification. Therefore, the amendments are new matter.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. **This rejection is necessitated by applicants’ amendment in Paper No. 11.**

Claim 2 is vague and indefinite in that the metes and bounds of the phrase “...a polynucleotide of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2...” are unclear. The phrase can be interpreted to specify the polynucleotide comprises either the entire sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or only a portion of SEQ ID NO: 2. It would be remedial to amend the claim language to explicitly distinguish between the two possibilities.

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Conclusion

No claims are allowed.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

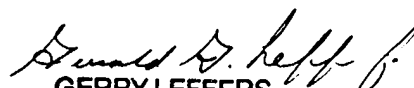
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gerald G Leffers Jr., PhD whose telephone number is (703) 308-6232. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Remy Yucel can be reached on (703) 305-1998. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Gerald G Leffers Jr., PhD
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1636

Ggl


GERRY LEFFERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER